[Dated: July 9, 1999]

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL

Terry McNamara
Manager, Preclinical Development
Bayer Corporation
Animal Health Products
P.O. Box 390
Shawnee Mission, KS 66201-0390

Dear Mr. McNamara:

This letter is to transmit Office of Pesticide Programs' (OPP) preliminary risk human health assessment for the organophosphate (OP) coumaphos, for which you hold a registration for technical material. We are providing you with a 30-day period to identify and comment on errors only. Your comments must be received within 30 days of receipt of this letter. The Agency will review and evaluate your comments on errors upon receipt. On or about September 1, 1999, the preliminary risk assessment, your comments and the Agency's review and discussion of your comments will be placed into OPP's Public Docket. The docket will be opened for public comment for 60 days from the date of publication of a Notice of Data Availability in the *Federal Register*. Additionally, the preliminary risk assessment will be placed on the internet at the same time. This process is part of the Agency's efforts to involve the public in the implementation of the Food Quality Protection Act of 1996 and serves as an interim measure to improve the transparency of the reregistration and tolerance reassessment processes.

During this 30-day comment period, the Agency asks for comments on errors, confidential business information (CBI), and planned data. The Agency will respond only to errors which do not pertain to matters of policy, interpretation, or applicability of data. Errors include, but are not limited to, mathematical, computational, typographic, or other similar errors. In the process of reviewing the Agency's preliminary risk assessment, we ask that you inform us in writing of any claims of CBI contained in these assessment. If we do not receive notification in writing of any such claims within 30 days, the Agency will assume that the document is free of CBI. Also, we request that you inform the Agency of any pertinent, on-going or planned studies, or other sources of information on coumaphos, and your timetable for completing and submitting such data and information to the Agency. This will enable the Agency to plan better for refining the its risk assessment and completing the reregistration and tolerance reassessment.

If during this thirty day period, you submit comments other than on errors, you should clearly indicate that they are submitted in advance for the 60-day public comment period. You should provide a brief summary of the comment and refer to an attachment which provides a more in-depth discussion.

Please mail your response, any claims of CBI and other information about coumaphos to Monica Alvarez, the Chemical Review Manager (CRM). In addition, provide the CRM your response and any supporting material in both hard copy and electronic form. If you have any questions, please contact her at (703) 308-8026.

Sincerely,

Robert McNally, Chief
Special Review Branch
Special Review and
Reregistration Division